UNCLASSIFI	CM - I liver aci	4	CONFIDENTIAL,	SECRET/
ros: Ray	rana, Cuba	11	M-175h Local File	
O. Of Pales:		Fo. of Encio	sures: SPME Docume	nt (5 page)
Report Nade By:	Andrew P. Me	PAPER PRIORES BY:	. Wanten	(.00
Distribution: By copy to:	1 - Embassy	on w/s.* and Att w/o att Orally to: Logal Attache w/o at	None	
, mg		de Cuba w/att	Law Month of the	A au
	3 6	References:		
Source Cryptonys Source, Operation	onal Data, and Com	monts:	Short the same of	\(\)
. ابن		NOT	SUITABLE FOR M	CROFILM
	do Frente Nacional	L del Escembray		
SOURCE: Subject	ot of HAVA 037, 8	October 1957 May	Resnier	
Station Comments	<u>5</u> 1	.		/8
the Escant Verifax co	oray?) from which	mbray? (What is the ithe information in plent are attached for n files.	arsgraph 11 was take	t of n.
A				
c. HT, bresse	oard all names a	posaring in this rep	ort.	
3. Source has	been assigned a	posaring in this rep "C" rating on the ba		ot .
3. Source has with him f				nt .
3. Source has with him f	been assigned a for over a year.	"C" rating on the bar	sis of Station conta	2. N. 1.56=
3. Source has with him f	been assigned a for over a year.		sis of Station conta	24/
3. Source has with him f	been assigned a for over a year.	"C" rating on the bar	with the semontary as	241-166
3. Source has with him f	been assigned a for over a year.	or accordance des	with the semontary as	241-15
3. Source has with him f	been assigned a for over a year.	rating on the bar named dis-	with the semontary as	24
Source has with him is leaff a leaff a	delettere e	rating on the bar named dis-	with the semontary as	2.4
Source has with him is a secret of the secre	telephone content and telephone	rating on the bar named dis-	with the semontary as	2 A S

FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

EVALUATION OF SOURCE A Completely reliable B Usually reliable C, Fairts reliable D Not usually reliable L Not reliable (Applied to assures of doublful bonesty or loyalty, regardless of their competence). F Reliability cannot be judged (Applied to unreared or insufficiently finished converse).

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT: 1. Confirmed by other independent and reliable sciences: 2. Probably true. 3. Possibly true. 4. isolabilist 5. Printably false. 6. Cannot be judged. Documentary, Based on original document,

S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY Cube

REPORT NO.

HKH-1754

30 October 1958

SUBJECT

Segundo Frente Nacional del Escambray

.

NO. OF PAGES

.

DATE OF REPORT

REFERENCES

DATE OF

INFO. PLACE & 27 October 1958

so Hahone

29 October 1958

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

SOURCE

SFNE leader in Habana who has just returned from a 30-day tour of the Sierra Escambray (C). Appraisal of Content: Paragraphs 1-10: 3; Paragraph 11: Documentary.

- 1. Rebel forces in the Sierra Escambray, Province of Las Villas, now consist of one major force of about 1,400 men and two minor forces of about 100 and 164 men each. The major force, which calls itself the Segundo Frente Macional del Escambray (SFNE, Second National Front of the Escambray), consists of former students, members of the Organizacion Autentica (OA, Authentic Organization, followers of Carlos PRIO, former president of Cuba), and members of the Partido del Pueblo Cubano (Ortodoxo), including followers of Emilio OCHOA. Organizational details of the SFNE are given in paregraph 11 below. The two minor groups are the Directorio Revolucionario (DR, Revolutionary Directorate, a student revolutionary organization) with about 100 men under Rolando CUBEIA Secades; and the 26 of July Revolutionary Movement with 164 men under Ernesto "Che" GUEVARA.
- 2. The SFNE members see themselves as the answer to the threat posed by the 26 of July movement. While they desire to see RATISTA and his clique driven out, they are not extremists and would co-operate with the Cuban Army toward the accomplishment of this end. Although there are many anti-RATISTA persons within the Cuban Army, the SFNE is not in direct touch with any active conspirators therein at the present time. If a military junta were to be formed to oust RATISTA, however, the SFNE would co-operate with that junta. With regard to SFNE-DR relations, the SFNE cannot become identified with the DR because of CUBELA's involvement in the assassination of Colonel Antonio BLANCO Rico in 19562 and the consequent effect this might have on SFNE-Cuban Army relations.
- 3. The SFNE occupies a territorial sone of great potential strategic importance. Given sufficient arms, they believe that they could cause a government crisis in Habana by seizing and holding Las Villas Province, thereby cutting off Habana from its main sources of supply in Las Villas, Camaguey, and Oriente Provinces.

S-E-C-R-E-T

DISTRIBUTION

31 Oct 58

- 4. The SFNE suffers from a serious shortage of arms and amountion.

 Approximately 700 men have Italian carbines and a very few heavy weapons such as Johnson automatic rifles and Thompson submachinegums. The remainder of the men have sidearms. The carbines were furnished by Carlos PAIO from previously uxisting arms caches in Cuba. The SFNE, has about \$100,000 cash available in the United States to buy arms but they are reluctant to chance losing the arms to U.S. authorities, who have already seized some attempted shipments. The SFNE suspects that the 26 of July Novement may have been responsible for such seizures by "tipping off" the U.S. authorities.
- 5. The SFNE is facing a strategic crisis. Because of the arms and amhunition shortage they must necessarily restrict the scope of their military activities. This means that as the 26 of July force under GUEVAFA begins to get organized and to receive the full support of the international 26 of July organization, they will be able to maintain a much higher level of military activity than that of the SFNE. This will eventually result in a deterioration of SFNE morals and in the domination of the Escambray by GUEVAFA. The SFNE estimates that this will take place before the end of January 1959. They have told PRIO of this situation and are urging him to send arms and ammunition as soon as possible. The CA members of the SFNE are sending about 30 personal letters to PRIO urging his support.
- 6. Before GUEVARA's arrival in the Sierra Escambray there was a contingent of about 150 sympathizers of the 26 of July operating in that area. About half of these have joined GUEVAPA's force, bringing it to 16h men; the remainder have stayed with the SFNE. GUEVARA's force is well equipped with automatic weapons. The amount of his present supplies is not known. He arrived with a supply train of 70 mules. There are no air strips in his area, and the only way his supplies can be augmented is by air drop.
- 7. The SFNE, on the other hand, controls four air strips and can control on demand a certain section of the coast highway between Cienfuegos and Trinidad. Any of these can be used by IC-3 aircraft. No air shipments of arms or amounttion have been received by the SFNE as yet, although around early October they held the highway strip for five days awaiting such a flight. The IR has received one air drop of Thompson submachineguns, but most of these were broken under the impact of the drop.
- 8. It costs approximately \$2,000 a day to maintain the fighting force of the SFNE. Most of this money is raised by taxes on the Escambray coffee harvest. Some financial and material aid comes from Habana from the retaguardia (rearguard), as these SFNE supporters call themselves. The SFNE has a small medical department consisting of about two doctors, two dentists, and several murses. They also have a shortwave transmitter valued at about \$1,000. The SFNE receives little aid from abroad, where the 26 of July movement dominates all support activities.
- 9. The SYNE has little political ideology. Its fighting creed is "Liberty," Justice, Democracy, The Constitution of "LO, and the Lone Star." Rather than create another flag as did the 26 of July movement, the SYNE prefers to retain the Cuban banner with its single star.
- to. The SFNE has completely controlled the problem of Communism in its zone. There are only two self-admitted Communists, who have been allowed to remain in the zone on the condition that they remain "quiet" (Tranquilo). Communist leaders from Habana previously made, an approach to the SFNE to be allowed to participate in the fighting alongside that organization. The request was made through four self-admitted Communists who resided in the Escambray zone, two of whom have since left the zone. The Communist offer was flatly rejected.

S-E-C-R-E-1

The SFNE is organized into seven guerrilla forces totaling about 1,000 men and one training camp of acout 400 men. Set forth below is the organisational and personnel breakdowns. a. High Command (1) Major Eloy GUTIERREZ Menoyo (2) (civilian) Armando FLEITES Dias (3) Major William Alexander WORGANA Commander-in-Chief Delogate General Chief of Organisation (civilian) Aurelio NAZARIO Sargento Political Advisor Secretary of Beneral Staff (5) | Captain Rafael-GARRIGA b. Guarrilla Commanders (1) Najor FENA (fmu)
(2) Najor ARROYO
(3) Najor Lazaro ARTOLA
(4) Najor Anastro Major Anastasio CARDENAS?
Major Plinio FRIETO (abroad)
Major Josus CARRERAS A c. Detachment Commanders Captain Manuel-ZABALO Captain Heriberto-ARCE Captain Abel-CAMACHO Peres Captain Remiro LORENZO Captala Cresencio CIMERANEZ Captain Joaquin RODRIGUEZ Captain Angel BANOS Captain Luis-LLORO Cabrera Captain Filiberto CONZALEZ (10) Captain Enrique_PENE (11) Captain Jose SANCHEZ (12) Captain Eduardo PIEDRA 13) Captain Moiseav HERNANDEZ Torrecille (11) Captain Leonardo BOMBINO (15) Captain Rafael CADENA (16) Captain Roberto SORI (17) Captain Eduardo FEREZ (18) Captain Domingo ORTEGA (19) Captain Julio MARTINEZ d. Junior Officers (1) Lt. Oscar PEREZ Peres
(2) Lt. Angel\RODRIGUEZ
(3) Lt. Berardo SALAS Lt. Jose Gerardo BANGUELAS Lt. Adan LOPEZ Lt. Andres CONTAN Costia Lt. Jose PACIN Lt. Wilfredot FEREZ Lt. Luis VARGAS (10) Lt. Marcelo DIAZ Consales (11) Lt. Julio A. INUREZ Cabada (12) Lt. Jose A. GARCIA Aguilar (13) Lt. Carlos COMEZ Milian

Field Corments

- Top Ortodoxo leader well known for his opposition activities against EATISTA.
- 2. Former student who participated in the assassination in 1956 of Colonel Antonio BLANCO Rico, former Chief of the Servicio de Inteligencia (SIM, Cuban Military Intelligence Service).
- 3. Argentine medical doctor and 26 of July troop commander who was reported by a fairly reliable source on 8 October 1958 to have reached las Villas Province in a successful drive from the Sierra Maestra in Oriente Province.
- 4. GUTTERREZ and MORGAN have several times been reported as leaders of rebel groups in the Sierra Escambray. MORGAN is a U. S. citizen and reportedly a Korean war veteran.
- 5. Armando M. FLEITES Diaz, former medical student in the University of Habana. FLEITES has a long record of revolutionary activities and left Habana for exile in Mexico on 25 August 1958.
- 6. Member of the National Executive Committee of the Partido del Pueblo Cubano (Ortodoxo) (Cuban People's Party-Orthodox).
- 7. Possible reference to Alfredo PENA, mentioned as a guerrilla chief in the Sierra Escambray in the June 1958 issue of 13 de Marzo, official organ of the DR.
- 8. Probable reference to Lazaro Josquin ARTOLA, former student of commerce who was arrested in 1956 on charges of planning an assault against Cuben Army installations in Camaguey.
- 9. Probable reference to Anastasio CAMDNAS Avila, reported in the Habana press on a March 1956 to be commanding a rebel group in Las Villas Province.
- 10. Probable reference to Plinio PRIETO Ruis, reliably reported in May 1958 as an OA member who signed a declaration to the Cuban people announcing the opening of a second front.
- 11. Probable reference to Jesus CARRERAS, reported in the June 1958 issue of 13 de Marzo to be in the Sierra Escambray.
- 12. Possible reference to Roger RODRICUEZ Sanches, reported in the Habana press on 24 June 1954 as a University of Habana student who was acquitted with eight other students of charges of public disorder in the University. One Roger RODRIGUEZ signed a protest in 1955 against the Cuban and Guatemalan dictatorships.

S-E-C-R-E-1

19-7-1

solidado y victorioso, con cominio de vastícimas monas que compressabilidad grapos monteñosos de Sancti-Spíritus, Trinidad y Cionfue os, en la regista central
de la Isla de Cuba. La dirección bélica del Escambray está a campo for distado Mayor radicado en la Cordillora, organismo que elabora sobre el prepio terreno
ha estrategia y la táctica a seguir en cada eportunidad. La Comandancia y Jefatura máxima del mismo está en manos del joven y bravo combatiente, eloy GutiraREEZ NESCYO, y lo segundan los Comandantes GENARO ARROYO, ANASTASIO CARDENAS,
JEGUS CARMERA, DR. ARMANDO PLEITES DIAZ (Delegado General Civil), WILLIAM A. MUEGAR, VLINIO PRINTO RUIZ (actualmente Delegado en el Extranjere) y ALPREDO PELIA.

Re preciso señalar que bajo la jurisdiseión de este Estado Mayor, están sujetos gran número de oficiales, que han obtenido sus respectivos grados por
los seritos adquiridos en las sonas de operaciones del II Frente Racional del
Escambray, Com el grado de Capitán y jefe de destacemento, existen los siguiendezaro Artola
tes: Manuel Zabalo, Heriberto Arce, Abel Camecho Féres, Ramiro Lorense, Credeesmoio Gimeranes, Joaquín Hodrígues, Angel Bahos, Luis Lloré Cabrera, Filiberto Gensáles, Enrique Peña, José Sánabes, Eduardo Piedra, Maleda Hernándes Torrecilla, Leonardo Hombino, Rafael Cadena, Roberto corf, Eduardo Péres, Domingo Ortega, Julio Hartiness y con el grado de Tenisates Oscar Péres Péres, Engel Rodrígues, Perardo Salas, José Gerardo Bengualas, Adan Lópes, Andrés Contán
Ocaña, José Pacin, Vilíredo Péres, Luis Vargas, Marcelo Dias Genzáles, Julio A.
Ruñes Cabada, José A. Garcia Aguilar, Carlos Odass Milian, Sergio Mentes de Oca, Eloine Barrera, Carlos Bomedios, Ismael Péres, Persin Amador Hodrígues, Migsel Alba, Evelio Martínes y Aldo Sánabes.

La Delegación General Civil de este frente está constituída por un Delegación de Gral., el Dr. AFMANDO FIEITES DIAZ, un Coordinador Racional, ROGERESCRISTES, por los distintos Delegados Provinciales y departamentos mexos al mismes una Delegación en el Extranjere y un Comité Interno para función no militar. El Dr. Fleites Dias, además de desempelar cabalmente su responsable cargo, trabaja en coordinación con el Departamento Sanitario, atendiendo a la pobleción campesina de todas las sonas.

19-9-8)

⁻⁻⁻ ORONNIZACION Y DISCIPLINA ----

Los pioneres del II Frente, trás hacerse fuertes y lograr mentenerse en la

región montañosa del Sur de Las Villas, penetraron de imagilato en la frace de la organisación y la már estricta disciplina. A tel larecto procedieros a distar un regimento e el composición de la soldados de la revolución de este importante lagislación, se constituyó un Tribunal Disciplinario, encargado de todades y resolver sobre todos los casos de infracciones y delitos. Lo que ofrece una tómica de la preocupación de los hombres del Escambray por el mantonimiento de la moral, la disciplina y el orden.

Uno de los erganismos que más fructifera labor realisa en la cordillera, es, zin lugar a dudas, el Departamento Senitario. A cargo del mismo está
el reputado galemo, Capitán José Misrahi, toniendo a sus órdemes un numeroso
y valiosísmo personal; ecupando el puesto de cegundo, el Teniente Carlos quesada. El Team Médico no selamente presta sus servicios a los rebeldos, sito que también lo hace a los hábitantes de las regiones en que elles eperan.

Con la instalación de distintas enfermerías y el incosante trabajo de los bembres que componen el Departamento Sanitario, se ha logrado la dismissión considerable de las epidenias y enfermedades aránicas que asotatua a un porcentaje considerable de vecinos del Tarritorio Libro del Becambray.

Los rebeldes enentan con un Darc de Prensa y Propaganda, ergenismo que eredacta los partes oficiales e informaciones del II Prente. La dirección del mismo está a cargo del Capitán Refael Carriga, quien a la vez tiene la recponsabilidad de la Secretaría del Estado Mayor.

La jefature de la Organización General del II Prente Macional del Escambray -uma especie de Supervisor Militar- está en manos del nortecmericano, Comandente William A. Morgán, hombres espes, de grandes iniciativas y un trabajador incanable por la superación de todo el aperato que opera bajo la jurisdicción del Betado Xayor rebaldo.

Para evitar la infiltración de confidentes, agentes guternamentales, chivatos e delincuentes en territorio beligerante, se ha ercado el Cuarpo de Investigación e Información, al mendo del Capitán Manuel Utero. Este organismo
se encarga también de interrogar a aquellos hunhres que son enviados por los
ennales rebeldes en la retaguardia para impresar en sus films, admins de reslisar un permenente obequeo sobre el comportamiento de todas las fuersas con
la población empesina.

Una de les grandes dificultades del ejército rebelée del lédambres, que en principio, la entrada de mercancias, medicinas, ropes, sematus su en situation tode lo necesario para avicuallar debidamente sus miliciantes. Specio estad dificultades han quedado superadas con la creación y perfecto faculomaniente del Departemento de Abastecimientos, que está a cargo del Capitas Jaco Garde-

En coordinación con el anterior, trabaja el Guartel riaestre Coneral, que distribuye los alimentos y otros artículos necesarios a los immunistrables estrepamentos rebeldes. El Capitán Honorio Machin, es la persona con que suenta e el Estado Mayor rebelde para que sugfuerzas disfruten de la debida atención. Además, es significativo señalar que junto a Abestecimientos y al Guartel e Macetre General, está funcionando la fabrica de botas, cananas, uniformas y sartucheras para revólveres y pistolas.

bl Departemento de Armeria del II Prente Racional del Escambrey, dotado de todes los equipos necesarios para llenar a cabalidad su trabejo, está dirigido por el Capitán Regino Gamacho, ex-tehiedte del ejército republicano espaliol, y técnico en la construcción de Armanantos y nunciones, Esta combatica-te español, que ha hecho suya la causa de la libertad de Quba, es un verdadere maestro en su profesión. Tal sosa ha quedado demostrada con la fabricación
del "N-1-GAMAGEO", calibre 15, ascondicionada con cargador de disco de 70 tiros y enfriamientos y tiene ya en construcción otro tipo de N-1, éste de bala
de carabina italiana expensiva-

En el terreno de la comunicación y el contacte diario, las Auereas del II Frento no tienen dificultades de mingún género con la existencia del Guerpo - de Mensajeros, integrado por hombres concederes de las amplias mones dominadas por los incurgentes. Al frente de este importante músico está el Capitán Carlos Manuel Cárdenas.

El Estado Mayor y la Delagación Civil de este frente, en vista del elevado porcentaje de nifica de edad escolar y campesinos analfabetos, ha procedide a la apertura de esquelas en varias sonas, a cargo de las quáles se encuentrán - elementos con condiciones intelectuales para importir una enseñanza que jamás gobierno alguno efreció.

Los hombres d'il II Fronte Macional del Masambray demiestran con la realimasión diaria de hechos positivos que son elgo más que guerreros. Esto se comprocede con el tratajo que realiza el Departamento de Ingentaria, bajo la direación del estudiante de sata anteria, Capitán Public R. Ruid, ergoidade precoupado por el mejoramiento de los caminos y sarretoras existentes en
tas acoas, y asimismo se precoupa por la edificación y reparación de pasas del empesinado desposeído de la cordillera. Se está estudianda la pasibilided de llevar a cabo un plan de reedificación de las viviendas incendinas por la mano criminal de los soldados y las destruídas por la aceida internana de las bombas y la metralia de la tirmise.

Ser un soldado del Recambray no es tan fácil como muchos imaginan. Culsão pienem que al penetrar en territorio rebeldo, de immediato pasarán a las fuerans que operan y combaten en las distintes zonas. Pres no compre saí. Cuando sualquier hombre entra en el Territorio Libre del Essembray, se
le interrega minuciosamente en el Departamento de Investigación e Información, y más tardo se le remite al Campamento Cameral de Instrucción, lugar
donde permanecará el timpo prudencial que le permita obtener les conocimientos elementales para convertirse en un guerrillero apto para la pelea y el
constante bregar.

Al Compenento General de Instrucción está a cargo del Capitán Benry Passtes [El Argelino]), nativo de Argelia, ex-contatiente de la II Guerra Mandial y un verdadoro masatro en le que a contiendas de guerrillas se refiero.

/ La disciplina, el comparismo y el scendrado smor a la patria prodomina en el los integrantes de esta escuela de la revolución, Mate compenento es un verdadero ejemplo de lo que puede el trabajo, la prédica y el esfuerso desarrollado per el Capitán Fuertes y el Teniente Martines.

La jefatura de Personal del frente está bajo la responsabilidad del Gapitas Efren Mur, une de los combatientes más entigues del Escambrey.

----OPECLUSIONES

Cientos de combatientes sonstituyen las fuerens del II Frente Hasional del Escaphray, dende en un accaseo patriótico sonviven les hanbres de tedas las esferas sociales, de todas las militancias revolucionarias, políticas e los alejados de allas, herranados bejo un nombre: II FRENTE HACIONAL DEL ESCAMBRAY, y una bandera: LA ES LA ENTRELLA SOLITARIA.

El II Prente -le retrarace- es un bastión de guerre, que tiene como objetivo primordial el derrecesiento de la distactura y el restablesimiento de las instituciones democráticas; pero estima que de esta revolución deben - enreir sciplins transformed ones at order scondator, schill y folkties, que garanticem que los bechos que lombatimos james puelvem a repetirele y de donde surja pujante la CU. A MUEVA DE HAPARA. VERCUM O ROMINI.

Kacambray, cetubre de 1958.

Jase Buré de rreman y tropaganda. Il Frente San, Bosanbrer.